It's November 20th. I'm finally done petsitting, so that means we can actually look at the physical book.

And first off, just holding—[holding ASR] this is Book One. [holding up AC] This is Book Two, which is what we're currently on.

Just looking at them, you can perfectly fit uh, Book One in between here. [showing B1 fits inside B2’s hardcover perfectly]

And the pages seem to line up pretty exactl,y despite this— despite the hard cover on this thing making it look a tiny bit bigger. [holding them next to eachother to show the spines] Just a tiny bit. Like, not even a lot. Just a little bit bigger. This one is a centimeter. I am too lazy to find a ruler to measure this one.

But we are going to be comparing at least the physical copies to see— because if— for

all of the people clicking on these at random, instead of going to the start of the playlist, which is a lot of people— you're missing out on a bunch of context.

So Book One is a book— absolute scam.

[unintelligible from offscreen]

Huh?

[from offscreen] I said not just book context.

You have to—

[from offscreen] Context.

You have to talk louder because the fan's on. Twin two says from behind the cardboard— not just book uh context, critique context of all of the history of the publishing and going into this, and the choices that the publisher and along with them, the author, because she agreed to this shit.

So, if you weren't here at the start of this thing, click on Video One, cuz I don't feel like having to explain it all again.

But short version is: this is filled with so many godamn blank pages, and massive margins at the bottom of every single page, to try and stretch out the story to make it seem longer than it really is.

And *after* pulling out all the stops to make it seem longer, the very best they could do is

this shit. [showing the tiny book] They were charging $15.99 for this, aka $16 before tax and shipping if you're buying it from somewhere that it's getting shipped.

So, that was Book One.

[to offscreen] You can stick this in the cupboard over there so nobody claws it. I will say, unfortunately, there's itty bitty little kitten claw marks on this, you might not be able to see.

[from offscreen] It adds character.

Feral kittens rescued in 2025. Um, so this cover, I know some of the other ones are disgusting. This one's not too bad. Um, this one's— all, all of the ones we have are used copies. We got them from either physically at the Goodwill or from Goodwill's bookstore or just the thrift— just various online thrift stores for books.

[opening book] So, this one, it's got a cool gold and Black color scheme. Too bad that doesn't have a single thing to do with the story or any kind of theme at all.

It's just— also, this cover is completely fucking meaningless.

Let me actually hold that up so you can see it. [holds up book to cover]

Okay, so as always, we have to talk about— before we even get

into the story, now that I actually, uh— if you missed the memo because you're here at random instead of— go to the description, at least there's— it should be in the description. It depends on how long it takes YouTube to upload it so that I can edit it in.

Go to the description of the video. It should have a link to every single other video in this playlist in order.

Click on the first video and just watch the playlist in order so you are caught up with everything.

But anyways, um for people who are here and know all the shit already, we do have to— again, I am morally obligated to point out the racism and white supremacy. [pointing at cover].

This is diversity baiting. This is our protagonist Murderbot. And you notice that despite the fact that it explicitly does not have

access to this armor anymore, that it had in Book One, because it had to leave that behind, it's still being portrayed in that fucking armor on the cover.

And the reason for that is that this gives Martha Wells plausible deniability so she can literally spend years telling everybody online that it's a Black person and literally has the darkest fucking skin tone of all of the entire Preservation Aux crew.

But now, because she hasn't actually said that in the books, because it's very purposeful diversity baiting and giving her plausible deniability, “because look! It's not shown as having dark skin. You can't just say it's Black~ You're just making that up! Ignore all of the, the interviews where the author has said that in response to people — and the fact that it's on her own website or, not her own website, dream journal something something like that. I

don't fucking know. Not MySpace. I don't think MySpace exists anymore.

Um, yeah, the reason that Murderbot— because I, I just had I had to explain this to somebody else a few months ago, because they were also confused about why Murderbot is constantly shown in armor on the covers of the books despite it explicitly never having that armor after Book One.

And it's literally just plausible deniability, because Martha Wells has been telling everyone that Murderbot is a Black person this whole fucking time because that makes her seem progressive, and makes her seem like somebody who's not a white supremacist.

But because she doesn't put that shit in the book in writing—it's like with a fucking lawyer, don't ever trust an author who only tells you this supposed

diversity fucking— This is, this is the exact same shit JK Rowling did.

But people want to pretend that when Martha Wells does it, it's progressive. So,

[from offscreen] Dumbledore was gay. Yeah, Dumbledore was totally gay, everybody. I mean, you did see that coming to be fair.

[from offscreen] But like I was the only one apparently. And

also that was just in a homophobic way.

Yeah, just in a homophobic way. Um, anyways, yeah, the reason Murderbot is always in armor is, because that means Martha Wells can tell everybody online in so many fucking interviews, “yeah, it's a Black person. It's it's got brown skin. It's totally a person of color!”

But then because it's not in writing in the book itself, she gets to have plausible, plausible

deniability, for when Apple decides to pay her off to let her to let them whitewash and ciswash Murderbot, not just with white, not with just with any white person, a cis white man with blonde hair and blue eyes.

Taking Murderbot, a Black non-binary person, and casting a cis white man with blonde hair and blue eyes.

That's why Murderbot— That's exactly why Murderbot is

always in the armor. Because that means that white supremacists like Martha Wells can pick up the book and pretend that Murderbot has been a cis white man with blonde hair and blue eyes this whole entire fucking time.

But Martha Wells doesn't have to actually put in any effort besides just saying in interviews, explicitly not included in the book, that “it's, it's, it's definitely a person of

color. I'm totally not racist. This is a really diverse story. I totally care about people of color and representing them.”

Anyways, uh that's about the armor. Let's zoom back. Exactly what the fuck is supposed to be going on in this scene?

Because Murderbot seems— is standing out in space presumably. I don't know where else the fuck that could be, considering there's a giant

spaceship, that is presumably, um, A.R.T.. overhead.

So, this is not a scene from this book, and it's not a scene from any book after this, or before it. This is just nothing. Nothing.

It's nothing that exists. This is like— This is like, I don't know. This is like... trying to think of something that hasn't happened in Pokemon...

This is like if there were a Pokemon book, but like, the

Pokemon anime with Ash. And it on the cover it showed Ash... I don't know, going to the moon and being an astronaut on the moon.

Like, this, this, this A.R.T. didn't happen. Huh?

[from offscreen] I said and then that didn't happen in

Yeah. And then that— Yeah. And then that doesn't ever happen. This is, this is, this is meaningless.

This isn't showing a literal scene that happens. And it's also not conveying anything emotionally. It's not representing anything symbolically. It's just Murderbot standing in space, which is also, I guess, super smoky and orange. And then A.R.T. is somehow also there.

And A.R.T.'s supposed to be massive, so A.R.T. has to be really far back to look that small.

[gesturing with hands] So like, Murderbot’s standing here [holds one hand] and then A.R.T. is like hundreds and hundreds if not thousands or more feet back. [holds other hand far away from the first].

And this is just completely meaningless. It has— it doesn't mean anything. At no point does Murderbot stand anywhere and look out across any kind of distance while A.R.T. is also

there in the background, floating dramatically overhead.

Very blatantly a gunship, because it's covered in guns.

No, this doesn't happen.

So, again, I've gone on and on about the, the title being meaningless, but like also the, the whole A.R.T., it's just also meaningless.

Um, yeah, [pointing at fake stickers on the cover] this

“Hugo and Nebula awardwinning series”.

Finding out that this book series won awards and espes—specifically, won the Hugo and Nebula awards, I now know forever that nothing that wins those awards means anything, because those are just completely fucking meaningless.

If the Murderbot Diaries, especially Book One, can win an award from the Hugo and Nebula whatever, then no, those

awards are completely meaningless, because if you missed it, go back and watch the entire series.

That's why I'm putting all of this effort in. You can at least put in half the effort of watching it. Or just go read the fucking transcripts if you would rather read the transcripts, if you can read faster, then I can talk. That's what the transcripts are for.

On a note, I'm not done editing the one for the last video yet, because my laptop keeps getting shut down by the cats. Um, what was I going to say?

Oh, yeah. The the solution to the plot in Book One was that they literally told the bad guys, "Hey, we're going to blow up your nuclear bomb over there." And then the bad guys instantly started panicking despite having no evidence that the good guys could actually pull

this off. And then the g— the, the bad guys literally instantaneously sprinted over to stand directly in front of the nuclear bomb that they were just gonna— they were just told was going to explode. And then they just stand there and, and stare at the bomb until it literally does explode.

And that's how all the bad guys die, and the good guys quote unquote “win”.

Because they told the bad guys a bomb was going to explode, so the, the bad guys literally ran to stare at it and not do anything until it exploded and killed them.

And if you tell 99.99 repeating percent of the people in this fandom that that's how that plot ended, they're going to be like, just baffled, because nobody understood what the fucking was going on there. So, like, that, that, may as —that's the

reaction is going to be, “No, no, that, that— it can't— it couldn't have been that. It it had to have been something that made sense, right? I mean, I didn't understand what was going on there, but but it had to make sense, right?”

And then the other people are going to be like, "Yeah, that that may as well just be what happened, because nothing else made sense in that story."

Anyways, uh for the price of this book, it's $1 more than the first book, despite both of their pages lining up exactly. Uh it's $16.99 for the US, 22.50 for the for Canada.

It *was*, I should say, because undoubtedly the prices are going to go up. Uh, this is the one that was published in 2018. As I said, the inside's got a cool black and gold color scheme going on, but that's completely fucking meaningless.

Um, so we will see if they're going to do the scam thingy. We have this the blank, thick gold page.

Well, we won't c— we— I will be generous, and I won't count that towards the inside of the book scamminess, because that's just there to protect the pages. That's fine. I— that, I'm— See? Do you see how generous I'm being? All right.

So, for the pages before the story starts, we have a blank

page that just says artificial condition the murderbot diaries and nothing else. I will note that the pages are so thin that the text on the other side is showing through very clearly even when, like, that's— [holds up open book] you can see that it looks almost like there's a misprint on this side of the page. So that's not quality at all. Like even when the page is sitting down, no light shining through it, you can very clearly— I could

probably read what's on the other page.

It's listing off um The Cloud Roads, the blah blah all the all that shit. The next page, I can already tell is other books— Yes, correct— also by Martha Wells.

Uh, next one... And they're doing this shit again. But at least here, at least here, they— see, they've put these things over on this page. Theoretically, they could have fit them over here. But this is at least a good

sized font, and their spacing is not horrific. See, I'm I'm being nice. I'm not being— I'm not just picking at things for no reason. [holding up book] See, like this is reasonable.

Although I, I would say that this being in the middle of the page like this looks really weird. They should have just shifted it up here so that it lines up because it's it's weird looking like that.

But like, so far we're so far so good.

Then the back of that is a blank page and then it's the artificial condition title page on the back of that, instead of having another blank page.

And the back of that one and you can— you can literally still see the title showing through, even when the book is in shadow and there's no light shining through the paper. You can, you can tell it literally says artificial condition right here.

But this is the copyright page. And then again, we have another page that's all but blank with artificial condition at the top. But this is still a massive fucking improvement to the first book where they had so many fucking blank pages.

Here on the back of that page, it is blank. And then we get chapter one.

See, like even that, I'm not— I'm fine with that because it's usually it's usually considered

good to have your your chapter start on this side of the book instead of this side because it's just I don't know why they do it. It just makes it easier to read, I guess.

All right, so that's chapter one.

Of course, again, see, now I have to stop being nice.

They're counting all of the pages that are not the story, and they're counting them as being part of the fucking story.

So, exactly like Book One, we're pretending that page 1 is actually page 9. So, whatever page count is listed at the back of the book, let's see… [flips pages] at the back of the book, we have another blank gold page. That's totally fine. That's there to be decorative and protective. That's totally fine.

We have an “about the author” with a blank page on the other side. Again, that's fine because you usually don't want just

random shit facing the end of the book. So, that's fine.

Oh, okay. Cool. And it looks like that is actually the la— that's, that's all that's at the back of the book.

So, this is an improvement from Book One as far as “let's it— let's literally insert blank pages and of shit everywhere we possibly can to make this seem longer than it is.”

So, it's it's an improvement but not by much. It is claiming that it has 158 pages, even though we are starting on book—they're calling page 1 page 9.

So, and then they're claiming it ends on page 158, which means it's actually 149.

Let me just skim and not look at the chapter, not look at the text. Look for a random chapter. See if there's blank p—

Yep. Wait. Nope. Okay, they did that correctly for whatever chapter that was. I'm not looking at the text. I'm just looking for chapter titles to see if they are inserting entire full blank pages in front of the chapters because anybody who's read books for a while knows that when you get to a chapter, you do a page break at the end of the text of the next one so that your next chapter is always starting on a new page. That's fine. That's normal.

Seems to be happening in here. I'm not— I'm going out of my way not to actually focus on the text.

See, like this here, we end it here and then we have a blank page on this side. Again, that's fine because chapters usually meant to start here, but the other one they were literally inserting entire blank pages, but like yeah, uh it's so it's a slight improvement.

Actually, I think that's the chapter that we are on. Uh because I— Yeah, I think we're on chapter four.

So, I can actually go here. Um...

Oh yeah, because this is where I had to stop. Okay, so yeah, we are on chapter 4 at le— uh, again, if you're watching this instead of watching the videos in order at random, when I was petsitting, I forgot to bring the actual book with me, so I was using the ebook that I got from

Humble Bundle where I donated $18 to World Kitchen and $0 to this fucking publisher, cuz they're shit, uh, and I got all of the ebooks for free, plus some other extremely racist books for free.

Um, and then they also lied about it being the entire Ille-Rien series, but it's only two fucking books, even though there's three fucking books in the Fall of Ille-Rien series, and

also a collection of short stories set in that universe.

So, where the fuck are you getting off saying that two goddamn books are “the entire series” for something that has six books if you count the collection of short stories as a book? Like, that's just fucking lying.

[from offscreen] It's because they haven't republished them yet, but they're still going out of

their way to be predatory in their marketing.

You have to talk louder.

Cardboard — that's your name now— Cardboard says it's because they haven't actually republished the fall of the Ille-Rien series yet, but they still want to be predatory about their marketing and shit and just just lie to people to get money.

But in this case, the money went to an actual charity and the publishers didn't get shit.

Um, if you ever decide to buy a Humble Bundle, bundle of humbleness, um, I don't know if that's actually what they call it.

When you are on that homepage looking at the thingy you're going to get, go hit what I think it's like “customize donation”.

There's like a there's like a “pay now” button, and then below

that there's a little drop down menu that's kind of hidden. and says, "Customize your donation amounts."

And then it lets you push and pull sliders to say, "Give X give XYZ percentage to the charity, give XYZ percentage to the, the publisher, give XYZ percentage to the actual Humble Bundle website.

You can set all of— you can set all of that to zero, and give max the maximum amount to the

charity, which is what you should do, because that's literally the fucking point of it.

So anyways, yeah, we are on chapter four, because I had to stop, uh, before I even finished the first paragraph, because the horror, the horror.

This is supposedly page 53.

So the, the the whole thing leading up to this, that people watching this video at random—I am judging you. I have a

playlist for a reason. At least don't act like you're confused or act like I am missing context or nuance. That's not the get out of jail free card you all think it is.

Um, because very clearly some people are watching these, just picking one and then deciding not to look for any of the other conversations of stuff I'm talking about and they're like, "Oh, you're ignoring XYZ."

And it's like, no, you just clicked on the video where we talked

about that, that's, that's very clearly numbered. This is video 17, I think.

Like, you can't click on the 17th video in a series and then act like you have the full context, when you haven't bothered to watch them all.

And you don't have to watch them all! The transcripts are all free to read and download on the internet archive. You can even set the internet archive’s ebook reader thingy to read it to

you out loud in an automated voice.

Anyways, uh yeah, the whole leadup to this, you will notice—

As far as the ebook is concerned, I think we are 28% of the way through the story. [holding up book to look at pages] I'd say that's a good estimate.

Um, nothing has happened besides Murderbot being abused and coerced into a

completely unfucking necessary and agonizing surgery that it doesn't need to have because— without painkillers, without fucking— without being en, anesthetized, without any fucking painkillers.

And now we're finding out that like, it was bad enough because I, I, I did reread this book a few months ago and I even mentioned a few months ago what I— what's going on here, but then I forgot about that in

the, the *everything else* going on.

Um, I don't have my bookmark.

Let me— see if the receipt is just in that cupboard where I put the other book, or a receipt that doesn't have a lot of ink on it. Or we have an actual bookmark somewhere.

Um, no, that's too thick. I just want a receipt.

Oh well, I'll just remember what page we're on. Um, yeah, I

forgot about this detail even though, uh, cuz like everything, everything else is so bad and this just makes it so much worse.

So, the videos leading up to this, and then I had to stop when I got here, and was reminded exactly what's going on.

Oh, hey, a little ribbon. I can use that as a bookmark. That'll work. I have to close this, because my finger decided suddenly it was going to hurt.

Um, yeah. Up until now, I've been going off of the assumption, because I misremembered, even though I very much remembered this months ago, that all that quote unquote “all that” is happening here is that A.R.T. is chopping Murderbot's limbs off.

We know it has to be below the elbow because uh well, I guess it's not— It's not actually—

I thought, chopping the fucking limb off, setting that aside,

chopping some more off of either side of that, and then taking the big section—

And I feel like I need to draw the fucking diagram.

Use the iPad. I call it the I keep calling it the iPad. Is it not the iPad?

[from offscreen] No, it's a Kindle. It's Kindle Fire HD.

How many years old is it? Um, are you opening a canvas?

[from offscreen] Almost 10 years old.

Okay. Uh, I'm drawing on the quote unquote iPad that's not an iPad, but we just call them all that. Uh, habit of having a stupid ass iPad. Okay.

So, let me see what's going on. Okay. Okay. Can I increase the size of the thingy?

[from offscreen[Yes.

Where? Uh, is it the 2.9 button?

[from offscreen] Yes.

Okay. [drawing on tablet]

Yeah, that's visible. Okay. So, I thought that the plan here was take Murderbot's arms and legs.

That's like that. [scribbled arm] Chop them. [line through arm] And then we have— demonstrates how— Yeah. horrifying.

This is literally so fucking horrifying.

So, literally chopping off its limbs, no matter what. That is the goddamn plan.

So, I thought, okay, because the plan, for no reason at all, there's no justification— There's no actual justification. It's, it's horrifying, but we're just supposed to be fine with it. Okay.

So, I thought the plan is okay. I'm— It's not okay, but I'm just saying that because that's a fucking verbal pause, whatever

the scientific name is. I forget the name from those grammar videos.

Okay. Not okay. Very much not okay. Like horrific verbal acknowledgement of the fact that I am continuing blah blah blah blah blah. Grammar is cool. I don't— I forget it though.

So, I thought we would be, we, we, we— A.R.T.— I thought A.R.T. the fucking sadistic “I'm gonna chop you up for fun” because literally, literally

textually it's doing this *because it's bored*.

[continuing to draw on tablet] I thought the plan was chop off Murderbot's arms and legs below the elbow, then chop off another section of that. Sit that small section aside. Take the— this, this is the shoulder area. This is the shoulder. And then take this little piece of where the hand is— The hands are getting progressively worse.

And stitch them— why is it not doing a thing? Stitch them together so that you end up with a shorter arm.

Cuz that's the whole plan here.

Pretend those are stitch marks.

Okay. But apparently it's even worse than that.

Even though it shouldn't be possible for it to get worse.

And then you would just have a little random chunk of flesh over

there. Or rather four random chunks of flesh because this is happening to every single one of Murderbot's limbs. Both arms, both legs. This shit's going to happen. But apparently—eraser? Are the erasers exactly what they look like?

[from offscreen] Yes.

Okay. And they are individually sized independent of the... Okay. I assume me erasing fucking and changing pen size isn't isn't going to mess it up?

[from offscreen] No, that's completely new.

Okay. I probably could have just hit undo, but that's too bad.

Um, okay. So, but, apparently what's actually happening, which is why I had to stop and just go “no!!!!”

Is that okay, Murderbot's arm? I'm going to have to draw the whole thing this time. [scribbles an arm] Boop. We see we have an elbow and hand.

Apparently, what's actually happening is even worse, because instead of just just quote unquote “just” chopping the forearm off, we're chopping it off up here above the elbow, *and* below the elbow.

So, we are detach— we are detaching everything below the elbow, and then we're de-attaching everything below the shoulder.

The elbow is getting completely fucking removed.

So the elbow is just— Jesus Christ, just sitting there by itself.

And then we are going— we— this is what has to happen. (at tablet) Why is it doing that?

So now we have to take the shoulder area. We have to chop off a section there. And we have to take this area down here, and we have to chop off a section there.

We're not just doing one section of shortening. We're doing it above and below the elbow, because this, this very first paragraph of Chapter 4 is Murderbot waking in agony, because it hasn't been given pain medication and it wasn't properly anesthetized, as in wasn't anesthetized at all.

It's waking in agony with “bands of pain around its elbow and knee joints” because— meaning

meaning above and below, meaning—

[From offscreen] See, I took it to

—and here—

[from offscreen] I took it to mean that A.R.T. was taking some extremely creative sadistic liberties and wanted to see how precise they could be in taking apart the joints and then putting them back together at the joints.

I mean that's literally what's happening.

Yeah, that and— this is— this doesn't need to be happening. This does not need to be happening to Murderbot.

We do not need to be torturing Murderbot like this.

And, and if people are thinking, "Oh, well, that's taking it too far!" Performing surgery on somebody without giving them anesthesia or pain medicine is a

literal fucking form of torture. The fact that Martha Wells doesn't want you to notice how horrific this is does not change the fact that this is fucking torture.

So, so literally off— of every single one of Murderbot's fucking limbs, there are two chunks of flesh being removed. This is happening to its legs as well. [scribbles leg] That's a foot. Just pretend it's a foot. Just

shut up. It's a foot. I'm not drawing it correctly.

Again, with the knees, we are doing the exact same thing with the knees. That means we are chopping everything at the thigh area. Everything below—above the knee? That's gone. That's all completely fucking disconnected.

The knee is then completely separated from the shin and foot. And then it is all sewn back together. If I can draw a fucking

proper leg this time… to be shorter than it was before. Pretend— Pretend these line up.

We are literally torturing Murderbot for no fucking reason, because as, as— if you've seen the rest of the videos, there's no actual justification for this.

She could have made this like, literally the only fucking option for Murderbot to not immediately be murdered by a lynch mob. I, I even spelled out

fucking scenarios that I made up instantaneously on the fucking spot to show how that could have gone with basic fucking editing.

But she didn't set that up. We don't— Murderbot's not actually under threat of being killed by a goddamn lynch mob. Not one single person looked at it funny or even looked at it at all.

It is just being fucking coerced by A.R.T. into letting A.R.T. perform ridiculous fucking

invasive surgeries literally because A.R.T. is bored, canonically.

That is literally what is happening here.

[poking at tablet] Let me just erase it all. That's not white.

[from offscreen, mimicking Hal] I'm bored, Dave.

Well, that's mean to him. He didn't do anything wrong.

[from offscreen] I know. I know. I was about to say and I'm on his side.

Did he even say that, or is it just a mimicry? “I'm sorry, Dave.” I can't do that. Yeah. Okay.

Now, so let me try and— Is there a symmetry button on here? Somewhere at the very top. Oh, I found it, I think. Okay. [starts to scribble a human figure] So, very bad drawing. Very bad drawing. [brush skips] It decided I wasn't pushing

anymore. Hold on. We'll draw it from the feet up. Okay. So,

[to cat] Hello.

I'm just going to draw the joints as little circles to show them.

This is a shitty drawing. And I keep— apparently I'm not pushing the button right. Okay. So, So, Murderbot literally has had its limbs chopped off below the knee or above the knee and below the knee, and reattached to be shorter.

Its limbs have also been entirely fucking removed above the elbow and below the elbow and then reattached to shorten all of its limbs without anesthesia.

Click. [scribbled writing] You can suffer my horrible writing. I don't care. No anesthesia. No pain meds.

This is torture, and it didn't have to happen. This did not need to happen.

We are supposed to like the—
We are supposed to like A.R.T. and think that A.R.T. is awesome and cool and that A.R.T. and Murderbot's relationship is ~so cute and adorable and wholesome~ and ~they're such a good ship, they argue like an old married couple~

A.R.T.— [hands tablet back offscreen] here's the thingy back— A.R.T. literally has been abusing Murderbot from the goddamn start.

It did not— it literally let Murderbot aboard and then— of its own free will, knowing that Murderbot was an escaped slave, and then, literally just to be fucking sadistic, decided to threaten to murder Murderbot very viscerally, if— this is the fucking robot equivalent of just coming out of nowhere and holding a fucking gun to your head. It did that for fun, because—

Rapport exists by this point in time in space.

It's November 20th, 2025. Rapport has been out for like a hundred something days now. That came out in June or July. I always get those two mixed up because they are right next to each other and both start with J.

We know now that A.R.T. thinks faster than everyone around it, so that time seems to be moving slowly. A.R.T. knew exactly who Murderbot was, and— at this

point, you can't convince me otherwise, because it it had access to all of those news— It knew who Murderbot was! It knew Murderbot was a runaway slave! It knew it was a SecUnit the second it fucking saw it.

And then it still pretended not to know exactly what Murderbot was up to, and threatened to murder it after letting it aboard *on purpose*.

So, if, if A.R.T. had actually felt threatened and was scared of

Murderbot, it could have simply just said, "Nope, you can't come on board. I don't, I don't trust you. I think you're going to hurt me."

But it didn't actually fucking think Murderbot was going to hurt it in any goddamn way.

It literally just fucking held a metaphorical, not even a metaphorical, held the equivalent of a gun to Murderbot's head and said, "If

you try to hurt me, I will fucking kill you."

Literally. So, okay, imagine you're hitchhiking. You are a runaway slave. You're hitchhiking. You ask somebody to give you a ride somewhere. They say, "Sure, yeah, that's fine."

And then as soon as they are on the highway blasting by at hundreds of hundred miles an hour, so you cannot get out of the fucking car without dying—

If you didn't know, in case there's somebody who didn't know this, if you jump out of a moving car, you're going to fucking die, because you're hitting the ground at whatever speed that fucking car is going. Your body is not meant for that.

Um, imagine you're you are a runaway slave. You are hitchhiking. You know that the person giving you a ride knows that you're a runaway slave.

They are willing to let you in their car anyways.

But then as soon as they they get on the highway and are going 100 miles an hour, there's nobody around for miles who can help you, they whip out a fucking gun and press it to your fucking head and tell you, "If you do anything to harm me, I will fucking kill you."

When you've done nothing to harm them, and they literally let you in the car.

Is this— Is this self-defense? Is this something that can be justified by saying, "Oh, well, I thought you might hurt me."

No! They let you in! You’re— They let you in their fucking car! They could have, if they felt scared of you, they could have simply kept driving, but they stopped! They let you get in! They saw that you were doing nothing to hurt them, and they very specifically waited until you could not fucking leave,

which is the exact opposite of what they would want if they genuinely felt threatened by you, and then threatened to fucking murder you for literally no reason!

This is just sadism. This is just A.R.T.. being fucking sadistic and just fucking tormenting Murderbot and abusing Murderbot for no reason except that it it enjoys it, apparently!

And a lot of people are like, "Well, the character is called

Asshole Research Transport, you think it's going to be a funny little nice person?"

It's like, no, it's fine for a character to be an abusive fucking sadistic asshole. Uh, what's *not* okay is for the author and the *narrative* to want us to like that character and pretend that they're a good person, which is what this series is doing.

Just because she's lampshading the fact that A.R.T. is an abusive

fucking sack of shit does not mean it's good to portray A.R.T. being an abusive sack of shit as quirky and wholesome and #RelationshipGoals, which is supposed to be our takeaway with A.R.T. and Murderbot here.

It's literally just romanticizing abuse, and in this case literal, fucking medical abuse and torture.

So... anyways... let's let's read chapter 4.

I—

This is after Murderbot has been coerced and shamed into getting a surgery it didn't fucking want. It literally said, "I would rather peel off my skin than get this surgery, but I am being given no fucking choice." That's not consent.

Murderbot explicitly does not fucking consent to the surgery. It's just literally has no goddamn choice. And it is being coerced at every goddamn

opportunity and told that if it doesn't get the surgery, it will instantly fucking be sold back into slavery, which is not true.

This is just horrific, but we're supposed to think it's it's fine. And the fandom loves to misrepresent this horrific fucking torture! They love to say, "Oh yeah, Murderbot got uh, real relationship goals is when your f— your bestie gives you gender affirming care!”

‘Gender affirming surgery’ is how the fandom decides to frame being tortured, to people who have not read — this is that's how they advertise this scene to people who have not read the book.

So they're, they're literally claiming that yeah, some a runaway slave being fucking coerced into getting a horrific traumatizing surgery that they don't want by somebody who's holding them at gunpoint and

has kidnapped them at this point, because Murderbot can't leave!

It wanted to fucking leave as soon as A.R.T. threatened to kill it, but A.R.T. made sure to threaten to kill it *after* they were already out in space and too far away from the station to get help or even get back. This is now kidnapping, because if you ask somebody for a ride and — because you're hitchhiking, because you're a runaway slave,

you're, you're you're getting in their car in the agreement that they're going to drop you off somewhere without hurting you.

If they literally literally start threaten to fucking murder you with a gun to your fucking head the second you are unable to escape them, that's kidnapping now, because the contract that was agreed upon: “You'll drive me to here. We'll both be safe” has been broken.

So this is this is coercion under threat of death, and kidnapping, and it's leading to Murderbot being tortured.

And Martha Wells wants us to be totally fine with all of this.

We're not actually supposed to see this as just a literal fucking horror story.

This is supposed to be the epitome of these two bonding and, and, and she's framing it as being a romantic relationship.

That's what she's doing, because— exact same thing with Murderbot in the fucking armor.

Murderbot is supposed to be aroace and repulsed by everything, and it it has kept saying that, but Martha Wells clearly doesn't actually respect that or give a shit about that, because she— and every single other goddamn character in the series, which we're *never supposed to be upset with for

this*, keep find— keep insisting that this relationship must be romantic and sexual and it's— and it's just more— it's just more diversitybaiting. It's queerbaiting.

She's— She's just, just with— like with the armor. She's— What is the fucking word I'm thinking of?

She's courting all of the white supremacists by constantly putting Murderbot in armor so that there's nothing in the books

themselves to prove that it's a Black person. And she's also courting, no, I think it's courting.

She's courting all of the allos who hate aroace people who are uh, repulsed by the thought of being in a sexual or romantic relationship.

She's courting them by saying having Murderbot ~protest too much~ about being aroace and not wanting anything to do with that, while all of the characters

that we're supposed to worship go “haha wink wink nudge nudge. We all know what's going on here. How silly for Murderbot.”

Anyways,

> I came back online to find I was at 26% capacity, but the percentage was climbing slowly. Bands of pain circled my knee and elbow joints so intense I couldn't process it. My human skin itched and I was leaking. I hate that.

[from offscreen] Bleeding.

Yeah, by “leaking” that means Murderbot is bleeding from this

fucking surgery that it was not anesthetized for and has not been given any pain medication to deal with, and it's bleeding.

See how this is being framed? And do you see how the simple statement “I hate that”, that's taking this whole paragraph and saying “it's it's very funny. Trust me, don't— this isn't a horror This isn't a horror story or anything like that. You shouldn't be horrified. It's just silly. See, Murderbot hates leaking!”

Because using the word “leaking” is supposed to make that seem funny instead of like — okay, so Murderbot has literally had all of its limbs chopped off and then chopped into smaller pieces and then sewn back together without anesthesia, without pain medicine, and it's fucking bleeding. Bleeding from that.

Meaning A.R.T. didn't actually fucking sew this shit together

properly or reattach these limbs properly.

[from offscreen] Wait, in the first books are supposed to have like auto cauterizing veins and shit?

Yeah.

[from offscreen] So did A.R.T. disable them?

I guess so because um—cardboard says uh “but wait in Book One it said SecUnits have

auto carterizing veins. So did A.R.T.. disable those?”

And it's like, I guess it must have, because... what else are we supposed to go along with, besides admitting that the author is shit at writing, which, yes we can do, because yeah that's why it's— because she's shit at writing, but in-universe, what explanation are we supposed to come to, besides A.R.T.. decided to disable that?

How— you shouldn't be bleeding after a surgery has been successfully performed, because the point of a surgery is that *you're not bleeding*.

[to offscreen] I'm thirsty. I'm getting a drink quick. You can feel free to say things like, that's just paragraph one. Feel free to talk about the frame— Oh, there's a Marlena.

Oh, we forgot more drinks.

[from offscreen] There's water in the kitchen. Uh, how many are in there? I want to keep at least four for actual Thanksgiving. Okay, fine.

... When you're talking out loud and doing stuff—

[to cat] Oh, sorry. Sorry. I don't know if that showed up on the video. Come back. I don't know if that showed up on the video, but Marlena, come here. She decided to jump on the sofa right as I was leaning back. So,

I almost squished her. Marlena, you silly girl. You gotta be careful.

She's fine. She doesn't care. She's rolling around cuz she's a cutie.

Anyways, uh you're supposed to drink hot things while you're talking a lot, but it's already hot. So, I'm not making hot chocolate. Also, we don't have hot chocolate powder.

This is cranberry ginger ale from Aldi. I'm— I don't really think it tastes like either. It's good. Like, not fantastic. Doesn't really taste— I guess there's—

[from offscreen] It tastes like the name brand does.

Oh, does it? Okay. If— I guess if you like the actual ginger ale brand, this apparently tastes exactly the same. So, not very high rating for that either, I guess.

So again, with just the framing of this paragraph alone, I, I just have to post this paragraph alone to Tumblr and say, "Hey everybody, let's do some analysis, shall we?”

[to cat offscreen] Why are you dropping things? Why are you dropping things, huh?

I said, "Are you supposed to take this seriously, or is this the author's attempt at downplaying what just happened?"

Because the ending parts of this, this paragraph starts out neutral, just stating facts, and then at the very end, we get “and I was leaking. I hate that.” the usage of the word “leaking” instead of “bleeding”, That's supposed to automatically make it seem funny and weird, and therefore funny and then saying, "I hate that."

We're not— We're not supposed to take— that’s funny, that's supposed to be funny. That— not

supposed to take that seriously. We're supposed to think that's funny. “Murderbot hates bleeding.” “Murderbot hates leaking.” That's supposed to be funny.

So, yeah:

> bands of pain circled my knee and elbow joints so intense I couldn't process it.

So, it is in literal fucking agony from the fucking surgery that it wasn't anesthetized for and has not been given any goddamn pain medication, even though

the rest of the surgical suite at Medical Bay works on it perfectly.

So, what exactly is the reason it's not being given pain medication? We’re never given an explanation in the book, that, you know, um, “the company prevented regular painkillers from working on them somehow, made them immune to them, made them like metabolize them so that they don't function.”

That could be a thing that could be used to further show the evil of the corporations that do this shit and enslave people like this — that they're so goddamn cruel, they make it so pain medication doesn't even work on them.

But we don't even get that.

So, literally the only possible explanation we can come to, without making shit up like, that — by making up. “Okay, I guess pain medication just doesn't

work on them for some fucking reason.”

The only actual explanation we can come to with the evidence that we have, considering Murderbot is bleeding after the surgery has been “successfully” completed, is that A.R.T. has chosen not to give it pain med pain medication, for fun.

What other explanation is there? It's not like A.R.T.. doesn't have access to pain medication. It does. It has an

entire fully staffed— not fully staffed, fully kitted out medical suite, including a surgery bay.

So, why isn't Murderbot being given pain medication?

Why is Murderbot having to wake up from a fucking butcher job in agony and still bleeding?

Why is it fucking bleeding????

Why are the fucking chop marks on its goddamn arms bleeding??!?!?!

And then A.R.T. has no comment on this.

Doesn't say, "I'm sorry. This— this— I overestimated my abilities to blah blah blah interface with your proprietary technology, you're actually way more different from a human than I thought. So, um, I'm so fucking sorry that you're bleeding, because I can't do anything about that.”

Nothing like that. Nothing like A.R.T.. actually fucked up, this

should— never be a way A.R.T.. can't fuck up, because A.R.T.. *can't* fuck up.

So, everything going on here is *on purpose*. We could have had a thing where A.R.T..— because everything A.R.T. does is premeditated. Everything A.R.T.. does is premeditated, because literally, Rapport tells us that it thinks so fucking fast that it is in— physically fucking incapable of committing a crime of passion. because it thinks

so quickly that the world seems to be moving in slow motion compared to how fast its thoughts go.

Meaning literally every single thing that A.R.T. has ever done in this series and ever will do in the future is 1,000% premeditated. In the time it takes me to say the word “premeditated”, A.R.T. has already planned out 50,000 fucking murders in exact detail and then carries them out.

This is— This shit is premeditated.

This is how continuity works.

Especially because Martha Wells is trying to lie— well, no, she's not trying— she *is* lying directly to all of our faces with Rapport and claiming that she totally had— ~A.R.T. totally had character development in this book! A.R.T. totally learned a bunch of stuff in this book!~

And it's like, no it didn't. Shut the fuck up.

Just draw a scribble a thing of somebody just bleeding. Never mind. You can all just use your imaginations. Imagine the little drawing. And then every single one of those cut—cut lines? They're bleeding. Bleeding after the surgery has been “successful” because A.R.T.., as I said, this is— this is a “success”.

This is a full success. This is successful surgery, because A.R.T.. doesn't apologize for botching it. A.R.T. doesn't apologize for fucking up and, and being overconfident and then realizing when it's too goddamn late to take it back it couldn't actually do this job properly, that it promised—

Because A.R.T..'s not allowed to fuck up, “A.R.T.'s always right.” This is— this is what “success” looks like. Torturing a godamn

slave who didn't want to do this in the first place that you fucking forced into it, and it is in agony and it's still fucking bleeding, because you didn't even fucking take care of the goddamn wounds that you inflicted upon it

[from offscreen] And Murderbot's own systems can't cauterize them.

Murder— Yeah. Murderbot's veins aren't cauterizing themselves like we were told

they do in Book One, because she's shit at fucking writing.

That's all paragraph one. And the framing there is, “yeah, this is funny. Don't, don't, don't take this seriously. It's just it's just a silly little joke.”

> I didn't have the capacity to access or play any of my media

Because it's in fucking agony. It's literally in so much agony that not only can it not move, it can't even mentally fucking do anything.

[from offscreen, quietly] it can’t even disassociate.

Huh?

[from offscreen] It can't even disassociate.

It can't even fucking disassociate because it's in so much fucking pain because it can't access its fucking TV shows and just lose itself in them.

All I could do was lie there waiting for my levels to adjust. Attempts to move just made it worse.

It's literally being tortured right now. A.R.T. could have given it pain medication and chose not to.

And Martha Wells is not portraying this as a godamn horror story. She is not portraying A.R.T.. as a terrifying fucking sadistic butcher. We're — We're supposed to be fine with all of this. We're just supposed to accept that, “Oh, yeah. Well, yeah. Uh, don't question why there's no

anesthesia. Don't question why there's no pain medicine being given to the fucking victim / patient. Don't ask— Don't question the fact that Murderbot is bleeding after the surgery has been long since completed. Don't question any of this.”

We're not supposed to think of any of this as horrifying in any fucking way. We're just supposed to just roll with it and think, "Oh, it's kind of sad that

Murderbot’s in pain, but also not really”

Because yeah, it's, it's literally being tortured right now. It has been tortured and chopped into fucking pieces, and we're just supposed to be fine with this.

Attempts to move just made it worse. I wished I had gone with plan 16 to render the A.R.T..

The A.R.T.. The A.R.T.. I guess *the* Asshole Research Transport.

“Render the A.R.T..”

The— All right. That— I don't think that's ever used that way ever again.

> I wished I had gone with plan 16 to render the A.R.T.. inoperable. The one with the best statistical chance of success without me taking catastrophic damage in retaliation. Plan two to blow it up was looking pretty attractive at the moment, too. This had been a stupid thing to agree to.

And it's like, you didn't actually agree to it, Murderbot. You— You did not consent to this in any fucking way. You were fucking forced into it.

Being forced into something by your fucking kidnapper who has already threatened to fucking murder you is not consent.

So, literally, Murderbot wishes because of all of the fucking pain it is in, that it had actually attempted to murder A.R.T.. in self-defense instead of being coerced into this.

But again, that's— we're not supposed to take this seriously. That's just supposed to say, "Oh,

that's so funny. It, it, it, it's so mad at A.R.T., but not really.”

And yeah, I must stress, just because Murderbot thinks it agreed to this, it didn't.

It didn't actually fucking agree to this.

It had literally no way of saying no to A.R.T., because even if it just kept saying no, A.R.T. was going to keep fucking pushing it and pushing it.

And A.R.T. can literally murder it at any fucking time, and there's literally nowhere Murderbot can go to escape again.

So, with the hitchhiking metaphor, the fucking person driving the car who let you in on purpose holds a gun to your head and then says, "Hey, you have to let me chop you into fucking pieces. I'm— I'm totally a qualified surgeon. Let me chop you into pieces. Um, just

for the fuck of it, cuz I'm bored. I have nothing better to do, so I may as well chop you into fucking pieces. Oh. Um, and by the way, if you don't let me do this, you'll die. Other people will murder you.”

And, and then they— you literally can't fucking leave.

And they're still holding that fucking gun to your head.

They can kill you at any fucking time.

The only way you can get them to not instantly fucking kill you is agreeing to be chopped into fucking pieces, which is not actual consent. You're not actually agreeing.

Here's a basic fucking concept for people that people need to get through their heads.

[from offscreen] If you can

Shhhhh It's my fucking—

If you cannot say no, you cannot consent.

If you do not actually really truly have the ability to say no to someone and have them accept and respect that no, then you are not actually able to consent to them.

Because consent requires the ability to *not* consent.

If the only fucking options you have is saying yes and being fucking constantly harassed about it until you give in from exhaustion and say yes because this person is literally

threatening to fucking kill you, and can kill you at any time, and you both know it, and it literally fucking threatened to murder you for no reason but fucking sadistic enjoying the fact that you're terrified of it—

That's— you can't consent to that, because you don't actually have the ability to fucking say no.

Murderbot does not actually have the ability to say no to A.R.T..

A.R.T. literally can kill it at any point.

A.R.T. went out of its way to establish that.

You can't say fucking— you can't —you genuinely cannot actually say no or consent to the person who literally held a fucking gun to your head and still has that gun in their goddamn hand. Not putting it not even putting it away. They're still holding it. They can

fucking point it at your head again at any goddamn time.

This is not consent. This is not consensual surgery.

And the fact that the fandom lies to people and tells them, "Oh yeah, Murderbot got gender affirming surgery."

It's like— that is just so fucking hateful and vile to trans people! Trans people getting gender affirming surgery is not being tortured under threat of fucking

death and being constantly harassed and told you'll die if you don't do it.

And that is a fucking disgusting comparison to make, especially because now you are telling people to read the books “because Murderbot gets gender affirming surgery”

And then they get here and they see *you think* that gender affirming surgery is literal fucking butchery, chopping people into pieces while

threatening to murder them without anesthesia, without pain medicine, and then forcing them to suffer through that.

That's— that's— that's just disgusting. Just shut the fuck up.

We're now on paragraph three.

> It was like being in a cubicle after being shot to pieces, but without the cubicle's ability to shut down higher functions until the repairs were complete.

Again, it is in literal fucking agony because A.R.T. is

torturing it. This is fucking torture.

This didn't have to fucking happen.

It doesn't need to be fucking torturous! If we pretend that it *did* have to happen, which it didn't, it could have been given pain medication. It could have been kept fucking anesthetized—anesthetized in the fucking first place!

It could have been kept properly anesthetized until all of this fucking was done!

But A.R.T. is keeping it awake and letting it be awake and letting it feel this pain on purpose.

Because if that weren't what is going on, then A.R.T. would be giving it pain medication or else we'd be *apologizing* for the *inability* to give it pain medication.

But we can't do that, because A.R.T. always has to be right. So A.R.T. can't be *incapable* of doing anything, so therefore, it's all just— just totally fine.

Again, this isn't this isn't supposed to be horror.

This is just supposed to be totally fine and chill, just ~relaxing, turn your brain off and enjoy it~

Don't think about it at all, though!

> I had known going in that the med system wouldn't be able to adjust my pain level, but I hadn't thought it would be this bad.

So again, the pain the medical system itself not being able to adjust Murderbot's internal pain sensor thingymajigs has— that's that's not the same thing as Murderbot being unable to be given pain medication.

There's no fucking explanation for why Murderbot was not given pain medication.

Murderbot being able to turn off its pain sensors at will is not the fucking same thing as not as being given or not given pain medication.

And again, the “I hadn't thought it would be this bad”. Again, further further lack of consent.

Murderbot wasn't actually told how agonizing this shit would be, which means if it had consented in the first place, which it didn't, it wouldn't be

informed consent, which means it's still not fucking consent!

Again, Murderbot consented to getting a goddamn ride somewhere. It did not fucking consent to being threatened with being murdered and then harassed and coerced into a torturous surgery. Then it was fucking lied about how painful it would be.

A.R.T. said, "My my crew trusts me to do these things. Why don't you trust me?"

And then it didn't fucking properly prepare Murderbot for the amount of agony this would cause.

> I couldn't adjust my own temperature either, but I wasn't cold as the med system was controlling the temperature of the room and the platform to keep me at a comfortable level. Cubicles didn't do that, and I had to admit it was nice.

Again, this is just being used to downplay— So, okay. So, ~one nice thing is that Murderbot is not being left to freeze to death,~ and A.R.T.'s not even the one doing this.

That's the med system just doing that by itself.

And that's supposed to make up for everything else that we have just been described, which is all being framed as just light-hearted, chill, not a literal fucking horror story at all.

Gradually

And you cannot ignore the fact that Murderbot is a fucking Black person. Like this— this is medical abuse. And it's just—

it's just more racism. You can't divorce the fact that Murderbot is actually a fucking Black person. Whether or not Martha Wells is shilling for the company whitewashing it or not, Martha Wells is choosing to do this to her Black non-binary enslaved character and presents it all as just totally fine. Just totally normal. “You don't need to be concerned. It's fine.”

> Gradually, my levels started to even out and I got back enough function to dial down my pain sensor and turn off the itching.

We don't get— we don't get told how— how long it's taken that “gradually” to mean.

Does that mean a few minutes or a few fucking hours? Because it sounds like fucking hours.

[from offscreen] Three minutes of— three minutes silence in the middle of a conversation is apparently normal with the bots.

Mmhm. [agreeing sound]

> I needed some pain to tell me what not to move until all of the regrowth of my organic tissue was complete.

And it's like, okay, again, again, why wasn't Murderbot kept anesthetized until it had already healed, reached this level of being able to do that?

And the only fucking conclusion we can come to, from what is in the fucking book, is that A.R.T. decided not to help it in any way and just let it suffer like this for no fucking reason.

Because if that *weren't* what's going on, we would get told that, and explain to what to us why this is— why this is happening the way it is, if it were actually something that A.R.T. weren't able to fucking help with.

> A.R.T. was hanging around

Okay, again with the fucking you know, the “augmented human person”, in— “including in”:

> A.R.T. was hanging around out in my feed.

“Hanging around out in my feed.”

[to person offscreen] Make a list. Text me a list just “including in” “augmented human person” just like, again, this book claims to have been edited by Lee— Huh?

No. So it's not going to shine. Oh, it doesn't matter. Doesn't matter.

So, uh, “including in” “augmented human person” and now “hanging around out in”

Jesus Christ. Uh, Lee Harris claims to have edited this. Lee Harris also claims to have edited the first book. And Lee Claris— Harris claims to have edited Rapport, the thing that is only a few months old and has such glaring fucking typos in it, even though they're selling it to people for money, and people are buying it under the

impression that it's the entire next book in the series, only to think that their Kindle is broken because there's no— there's no ending to the fucking story, and there's massive blatant typos that anybody should be fucking embarrassed by, especially if they're making people pay for it and claiming to be professionals.

Where was I at?

A.R.T. was hanging around out in my feed.

Jesus Christ.

But you know, um, this is definitely worth $17 plus tax plus shipping.

[to offscreen] You want to look up how much this shitty book costs now with the Apple shilling raising the prices?

Uh, Book Two. Yep.

You just look on Amazon because that's where most people are probably getting it.

[from offscreen] It's on sale for Black Friday.

Oh, that's— all right. Well, it's on sale for Black Friday. So, what is the Black Friday sale price for a hard cover? Hard cover if that's an option.

Okay.

[from offscreen] Uh, it's on special hardcover sale for Black Friday for $12. Usually $24.99 and they're charging 13— $12.99 for the Kindle edition.

Okay. So, the Kindle— is that with the Black Friday sale or do they not do it for Kindle books?

[from offscreen] They don't do it for Kindle books.

Okay. The the ebook costs $12. The— the hard cover these days in 2025, now that she is shilling for Apple, the exact same people whitewashing and ciswashing her Black non-binary protagonist, it— this, this $17 has been increased—

Did you say 24?

[from offscreen] Yes.

That's— the 24, is that $24.99 or $23.99?

[from offscreen] uh I already closed it.

Okay it's either 24, probably $24.99. This is $24.99. This is— They're charging $24.99 for a book that's a centimeter thick, because, as I said, the pages line up perfectly with the first

one, and we get such ~fantastic professional editing~ such as:

> A.R.T. was hanging around out in my feed.

God damn.

> But mercifully hadn't tried to talk to me yet. At 75% capacity, I tried to sit up. Med system started throwing warnings and A.R.T. said, "There is no reason to move now. During the process, I ran a search of my onboard public information news feed bases during the

Oh my god, stop with the corporate speak. Jesus Christ, you don't need to say all of this shit.

And again, there's a difference between being pretentious, which is what this shit is, and using words correctly.

We don't need to be saying all of this shit, it's just obnoxious and pretentious and literal fucking corporate speak. Even though this is supposed to be criticizing corporations.

Are you listening?

[from offscreen] You have to start that sentence over.

> “There is no reason to move now. During the process.

And again, again, hold on. We— Murderbot tries to sit up. “Med system started to throw warnings.” We don't get an actual— just— It's just ridiculous.

> “There is no reason to move now. During the process, I ran a search of my onboard public information news feed bases during the time period in question regarding unusual fatalities related to mining. Do you want my conclusions based on the results?”

That— did you— the dialogue doesn't need to fucking say that

shit. That is just fucking obnoxious. That is just pretentious fucking corporate speak. The only reason it says all that shit, all of those words where two words would have fucking sufficed, is just to make the story seem longer.

Swear to God.

> I eased back down, feeling my organic parts cling to the warm metal of the platform. I was now leaking from a different spot.

So, Murderbot is bleeding in multiple fucking places, even

though we're told that this is a successful surgery. A successful surgery that results in the victim— because we can't call it a fucking patient, it's a goddamn victim.

It didn't consent to any of this shit. It didn't want to do this shit.

It's bleeding in multiple fucking places.

So, so its limbs, literally chopped off, and then not even

properly reattached, and it was bleeding before it tried to move.

It would be one thing if it moved abruptly and tore some fucking stitches, but like— if that's a simple thing that can happen just from it moving, then it should be in a medically induced coma right now to prevent it from fucking moving and literally having its goddamn limbs fall off, because right here? [gesturing at own arm

around elbow] It's gone. Right here, it's gone.

[demonstrating by miming at arm] These these areas won't be lining up properly, because your arm is not a perfect cylinder. So, we're chopping a section out and then sewing this back together. We are chopping a section out here and then sewing those back together. And apparently, it's not even good sewing, because it was bleeding

before moving, even though that was when the surgery was done.

And we're also not getting told like— is, is the medical bay just literally letting it lie there in its fucking blood?

Is all of the blood from the surgery literally just sitting there and Murderbot is lying in its goddamn blood?!?!

Because we're not told that “the med— the med— the med system, uh was suctioning away

the blood and applying bandages” or anything like that, or absorbing it, or anything like that.

Is it literally just lying in a puddle of its own fucking blood, which it is still bleeding into, right now, while it is in fucking agony?

Is that literally what's going on here?

Because this is fucking disgusting and evil and— and

we're just supposed to see this—We—

This is only one and a half pages! We're supposed to be breezing past this and not giving a single shit!

> I was now leaking from a different spot. I told A.R.T. I knew how to fucking read search results. “I would defer to your expertise in shooting and killing things. You should defer to mine in data analysis.”

And again, the casual fucking cruelty!

A.R.T. knows that Murderbot is a fucking slave. It knows that Murderbot was enslaved to have to do this shit, and saying, "Oh, I would defer to your expertise in murdering people." Even though we're supposed to think that it's bad for that Murderbot has to kill slave owners, a thing that it doesn't actually do.

But again, we're supposed to pretend that Murderbot is, is, is upset about killing slave owners.

So now A.R.T. is rubbing that in its fucking face. Rubbing salt in the goddamn wounds, uou might fucking say.

This is just casual fucking cruelty.

You don't get to say to somebody who is enslaved to be a meat shield, “I would defer to your and forced to kill other slaves. I would defer to your ability, your your fucking expertise in murdering people and being a meat shield.”

You don't fucking say that to someone!

And we're supposed to think that's funny.

We're just supposed to think that's funny and have no other thoughts about it whatsoever.

[from offscreen] ~Murderbot’s too stupid to be able to~

It's Yeah, literally, as they literally just said, it's also just saying ~Murderbot is too stupid to read a fucking— to just read

the goddamn Google search results~.

And again, let me fucking—

Okay, so A.R.T. asked— I'm recapping.

“Do you want me to tell you the results?”

Murderbot said, “I know how to fucking read results.” Aka, no, I don't want you to tell me. I want to read them myself.

A.R.T. says “You should— you should let me read them to you. I would defer to your expertise in shooting and killing things.”

And then the next thing is, I told it “fine whatever”.

Because again, Murderbot's literally not being allowed to consent to a single fucking thing.

A.R.T. asked, "Do you want me to read the search results to you?"

And Murderbot very blatantly said, "No, I want to read them myself."

And then A.R.T. is still pressing, "You're too fucking stupid to read them yourself. You should let me do it."

And then A.R.T.— Murderbot gives up and says, "All right, fine. Whatever."

That's— again just such a basic fucking thing. And, and

Murderbot doesn't actually get to consent to this either.

And I guess now is a good time to remind everybody that Martha Wells literally wrote an in-person interview where she's just interviewing herself and the characters in, that she got to write, and she literally decided to sexually harass Murderbot out of the conversation, even though the interview was titled Bodily Autonomy In The Murderbot Diaries. And then

she acts like this is even remotely fucking okay.

Murderbot doesn't get to have any goddamn bodily autonomy.

Murderbot doesn't even get enough autonomy to actually be able to say, "No, I want to read the results myself."

A.R.T. is taking even that away from it.

And we're just supposed to think it's “funny” because hearts— A.R.T.

s A.R.T.'s mean in a “funny relatable way” because

[from offscreen] ~Such a good caretaker.~

Yeah, A.R.T.'s ~such a good caretaker.~

So, let me…

> “Do you want my conclusions based on the results?”
>
> I told A.R.T. I knew how to fucking read search results. “I would defer to your expertise in shooting and killing things. You should defer to mine in data analysis.”

> I told it fine, whatever. I didn't think there would be anything useful.

So again, again, Murderbot is even just being denied actual autonomy in something as simple as looking at fucking Google search results.

> It sent its conclusions into the feed

Meaning it was literally never going to let Murderbot actually fucking look at the goddamn search results for itself and make—

Oh no. Oh no. Oh no. Again, this is implying thing. Yeah.

So, yeah, this is literally not letting Murderbot actually look at the sources for all of this shit.

I, as I said several years ago, at this point, I would not be shocked if A.R.T. is revealed to secretly be the big bad all along, but that's giving Martha Wells too much credit, because she very— she doesn't like— there's so much things that could be foreshadowing for A.R.T. actually being a villain, but it's not— it's not foreshadowing.

It's just that Martha Wells thinks that horrible, abusive

people are good and wants us to like them.

A.R.T. is not letting Murderbot actually look at all of the records it's claiming to have found. And it— as far as we know, it's just *claiming*, because we never see the actual evidence.

Murderbot doesn't get to see these these records for itself. It's just getting told what A.R.T. *says* it found.

We're not supposed to see that as weird or anything, or we're not supposed to notice that it's literally denying Murderbot any actual autonomy here despite pretending to make it a question, when obviously the only answer it is willing is to accept is “yes”.

> It sent its conclusions into the feed

Because it already had them prepared, because it literally was not willing to accept any other answer than yes, which

means Murderbot literally can't even consent to something as basic as this.

> Admittedly, it made sense that a large number of deaths under unusual circumstances would end up in some sort of public record available to multiple news feeds the way the DeltFall incident had.

Get another drink. Now, it's a dry.

The RaviHyral incident might also the damn thing—

Ah, shit. No pun intended. I forgot I was supposed to be using Farscape swears or something because the, the most annoying part the most annoying frelling part of trying to edit the subtitles for these is that the automatic subtitles generated by YouTube, which I have to use because I can't use the one on my phone while I'm recording video—

They automatically censor every swear word.

[to cat] No claws on the sofa. Thank you.

Which makes it very obnoxious. So, I was like, "Okay, I'll just use — I'll just use— I'll just throw in some fucking— See, I just fucked it up there again. That that time was on purpose.

Uh, “I can I'll just throw in some swear words from Farscape, Star Wars, Battlestar Galactica.

I'll just throw in some sci-fi star swear words,” but I forgot. It's too late. We're um, I don't know. Where's the timer for this?

Somewhere... That's the clock. I don't know. This is apparently 50.7 gigabytes. Huh. However many minutes. Yeah. However many minutes into the video we are. Apparently the open camera app doesn't tell me even though it's telling me the video is 50 gigabytes? So not actually better than the regular C—

Oh, okay. I see it. Probably not. The Okay. The the time is at— is in very tiny text at the bottom side of the thing right here. I'm pointing at it. It's not— other info is up at the top. It's telling me it's 9:02 p.m. with seconds included. That's not necessary.

And it's telling me there's 50 gigabytes 50.6 gigabytes.

[from offscreen] That's your storage space.

Okay, I guess that's my storage space. And it's saying ISO something one I— I guess it's 30 frames per second.

Stuff like that. Okay, but the actual time of the video is down here for anybody else. Just for me to remember.

I was going to say, “am I magically not recording and all of this has been a waste?”

Um, what was I saying? Yeah, it's too late for me to start using

sci-fi swear words. Uh, maybe I'll try, cuz then the question is, will the fucking censor even be able to actually spell them or is it just going to add more trouble for me?

[from offscreen] I mean, frack is to frack oil.

Yeah, that's true. Um, anyways, yeah, Murderbot is not even allowed to consent to this. Um because the, the story is just—we're not actually ever supposed to care about

Murderbot, or want Murderbot to be happy.

Martha Wells just wants us to continually see abusive relationships as as awesome and Relationship Goals.

> The RaviHyral incident might have been classed as an accident, but a company bond was involved. So, there would have been a legal battle. Though, if the data said it was a rogue SecUnit who had killed everyone, that didn't give me any more information than I already had.

Let me repeat that because that's very relevant to the— um I need the kriffing. I don't think they say kriffing in Star Wars. Do they ever use that with an -ing at the end? In Star Wars, they say kriff.

Huh? I think they just say “fuck”— Yeah, I don't think they ever say “-ing”.

Um, this book is— No, I need I need a word for shittily, means crappily. I guess I could just say

crappily. This book is crappily written.

So, I want you all to pay attention to this sentence again:

> Though, if the data said it was a rogue SecUnit who had killed everyone, that didn't give me any more information than I already had.

All right, that's on page quote unquote “55”. Minus 9 from that to get what actual page number it is.

Um, pay attention to that, because the whole the whole quest here, this whole side

quest thing, it's supposed to be Murderbot finding out if it was actually involved in this massacre at ~Ganaka Pit~, which is literally just a name chosen just to sound dramatic.

It's meaningless, because we never actually see it in any way at all. It's just meaningless. It's bad writing.

[from offscreen] And also, all mines are called blah blah Pit as of Rapport.

Yeah. And apparently all of the mines are called [insert name] pit as far as— when was that a thing? In Rapport?

[from offscreen] Yeah.

Okay. I don't remember

[From offscreen] That idiot mentioned something. Yeah. And it's like why would you do that? That's just that's she's trying to reccon and fix things but it just makes it worse.

Anyways, again this book is terribly written. Martha Wells is a terrible writer.

Again, I don't think I need to repeat how the plot was solved in Book One, do I?

The bad guys were literally told, "Hey, we're going to make your nuclear bomb explode over there." So, they rushed over to stand directly in front of the nuclear bomb. Not because they're trying to actively diffuse

it. None of them know even remotely know how to do that.

They're just standing there in front of the nuclear bomb waiting for it to explode to kill everybody. And then it did. And then all the bad guys died.

That's literally how the plot the plot was solved.

They told the bad guys bomb's gonna go off. Bad guys ran over to get exploded. They literally exploded themselves. So

[From offscreen] You got exploded. Blown up. Zathura.

I don't remember that.

[from offscreen] Just saying they exploded themselves. That's just how I— was in Zathura.

Is that a statement in Zathura?

[from offscreen] Uh maybe not that exact thing, but the little brother says, "Uh, we got exploded or I thought they exploded you."

Okay, I don't remember that.

Well, let me pause it quick.

Okay, I'm back. I had to wash my face. I have a fluffy kitty sitting next to me.

[to cat] Want to want to stick your face over here? They can see you? You can see her tail. Look at that fluffy tail.

Uh, ribbon not working as well as I thought it would.

[to cat] Hey, no, no. No claws on the couch. That's not what—That's not what paws are for.

All of this is being framed is totally fine. We are supposed to be breezing past this.

Like, this is again, we've only covered at this point one and a half pages. We're at the top of what will be the second and a half page. We're supposed to have breezed past all of this with nary a thought in our little fucking heads.

But yeah, to emphasize a third fucking time:

> If the data said it was a rogue SecUnit, that didn't tell me anything more than I already knew.

Just to emphasize that again.

Uh, and then shitty formatted dialogue.

A.R.T. is talking with no— just just out of nowhere.

Also, for the record, when A.R.T. is talking, it's just in italics. [points at book] We're over on

this side. It's just in italics. There's no quotation marks.

> “Records across several archived news feeds indicate the site of the incident was likely a small installation called Ganaka Pit. The information originates in a source from Kaledon, a political entity on the corporation rim.

We're saying *on* the corporation room. There's political entities *on* the corporation rim. Not *in* the corporation rim. *On* like. This is just basic editing shit. You can't even keep it consistent whether things are in the

corporation rim or on America. It's like saying something is “on” America.

What?

[from offscreen] You said that backwards.

I don't care. Whatever. Shut up. Whatever.

This is like saying something is on America instead of in America. What do you mean it's *on* the corporation rim?

Where the company funding g

Okay, let me just restart.

“Records across several archived news feeds indicate the site of the incident was likely

Also, who's archiving these news feeds? Huh? Who's archiving this shit? Isn't that illegal? If it's a capitalist dystopia, why isn't illegal to archive things instead of making you pay for them newly again?

If all of this shit was supposed to be covered up, why are those archives allowed to still exist?

Answers, questions that need to be answered.

If we're supposed to pretend this is a ~serious story for serious adults~, with Martha Wells literally gets up on stages and berates people that it *is*, then why don't we get answers to these basic questions?

> indicate the site of the incident was likely a small installation called Ganaka Pit. The

information originates in a source from Kaledon, a political entity.

And if you're wondering if Kaladon ever comes up again, it doesn't. It's just there. It's just a meaningless name.

A political entity on the corporation rim where the company funding Ganaka Pit was based. There were 57 fatalities. The cause is listed as equipment failure. SecUnits were categorized on inventory as equipment. A.R.T. waited and when I didn't say anything added, “So your initial assumption was correct. The incident did occur. Investigation can now proceed.”

Except we only— we have to just take A.R.T.'s word for this, entirely, because it didn't

actually let Murderbot look at any of the archives that it supposedly got all this shit from.

We're just now basing this entire plot of this book on A.R.T.'s word, even though A.R.T.'s a fucking liar.

Uh

> A.R.T. waited and when I didn't say anything added, "So your initial assumption was correct. The incident did occur. Investigation can now proceed.” I wanted to shut down, but it would interfere with the healing process.

Why would that interfere with the healing? That should make it better! That should literally make the healing process progress better, because you're not moving around and expending energy doing things that isn't healing.

What is the logic here besides “let's make Murderbot suffer, and not even have any not even attempt of a justification?”

Why would this— why would this hinder the healing process? Why? These are basic questions!

Again, when A.R.T. asks the basic fucking questions because a story doesn't add up, A.R.T.'s ~just being logical~. When I ask basic questions like, "Why are you telling us that Murderbot being unconscious would hinder the healing process?" Now, I'm ~just being nitpicky and I don't understand how storytelling works, cuz it's

not a documentary. It's just a story! It's not supposed to make sense!~

All right, then. What's your justification for not explaining this when you keep saying, "Oh, um, it it *just makes sense* that Murderbot wouldn't care about that."

Which is it? Which one is it? Because you can't have it both ways!

> I wanted to shut down, but it would interfere with the healing process.

So again, Murderbot literally is just being forced to suffer through fucking agony and is literally bleeding and possibly is lying in a puddle, a growing puddle of its own fucking blood.

[sarcastically] But hey! At least it's not literally freezing to death. That makes up for everything else, right? [end sarcasm]

A.R.T. asked, "Do you wish to do you wish to watch media?" I didn't respond, but it started an episode of Sanctuary Moon anyway.

And again, that's that's supposed to be cute.

And it's like again, Murderbot not saying anything isn't saying “yes, put on my favorite show while I am lying here in agony. That's definitely an association I want to have.”

And then we get a random line break.

[holding up book] And you can even just see, we're here [pointing] and we're going to

get another line break over here [pointing at next page] already.

So like again, why is A.R.T. even bothering to ask fucking questions if it's not actually giving Murderbot the right to answer them, and have its answer be followed and respected?

So it asked, "You want me to read you the search results?" Murderbot said, "No, I want to read them myself." A.R.T. said, "No, I'm doing it anyways."

A.R.T. says, "You want to watch TV again, a thing I have been harassing you to let me do with you this whole entire time instead of just watching it by myself?" Murderbot doesn't answer. And then it and then A.R.T.'s like, "Well, we're watching TV anyways."

And we're supposed to pretend this is cute.

If I were lying somewhere in agony I— and, and emotional fucking distress, I wouldn't want

to start watching my favorite TV show because— you know how trauma works? You associate bad things with whatever you're doing at the moment. So, I made the mistake of listening to the Doctor Who audio...

P.Z. is the acronym, because I don't want people just looking up the fucking plot of it and getting the plot of it without all of the horrific, baffling leadup, especially if you skip an episode by accident and then are just

[from offscreen] [laughs]

Brainmeltingly confused and alarmed like I was.

Anyways, I made the po— I made the mistake of listening to a certain Doctor Who audio, that's very well written and very fucking sad, while I was playing, uh, The Elder Scrolls Online, and I happened to be visiting the city of Solitude.

And then all the sad shit started happening. It's actually going to make me cry right now.

[from offscreen, quietly] it’s called Solitude.

Huh?

[from offscreen] And it's called Solitude.

Yeah. And it's even called Solitude. Like it's literally just going to make me cry right now thinking about it. It's so— It's so well written and it's so

fucking tragic. I'm legitimately going to start crying just thinking about it.

Anyways, that's what good media does. That's what good media—

So, I made this mistake, because I have ADHD, so, if I'm listening to an audio drama or an audio book, I have to have something to do with my hands, um, or I can't— or like, I need something to extra to do

physically or I can't focus mentally.

And this was also a problem in school. And exactly one fucking teacher let me act have actual pieces of paper to doodle on so I could actually listen to the lesson. No other teacher.

Um so while I was making mistake, I was playing ESO muted, no volume just doing random quests and listening to this audio drama.

So now forever I will associate the city of Solitude in the Elder Scrolls, whether I'm playing Skyrim or ESO, with this fucking tragedy.

It's such a goddamn tragedy.

And it's— it makes me so mad. But also, I can't actually blame the character, because what other fucking choice does she have? She doesn't have another choice. So she's—

[from offcreen]... these characters who have every choice.

Yeah. Unlike Unlike Murderbot and A.R.T., these people, who actually have the choice not to murder other people for fun and go out of their way to do so, none of the characters in this fucking story actually had a real choice in what they were doing, especially the one of them who had literally no choice.

And what she does afterwards is her attempts to, to, to, to try and justify it to herself, even though she didn't actually get a choice in the matter. And it makes me so mad at her, but I can't actually blame her, because she didn't have a choice, because she's also a fucking victim.

And I was listening to this fucking that made me cry while playing ESO, muted, in the City of Solitude.

So what I'm trying to say here is I can't play ESO— Well, not that we've played ESO in forever. I can't— I cannot, theoretically, go and open Skyrim and go to the city of Solitude and not think about this audio that made me cry so much.

Murderbot is lying here in fucking agony, and A.R.T. is now going to put on Murderbot's favorite fucking TV show, while Murderbot is actively suffering

all of this fucking physical and emotional torment.

This means that Murderbot will never be able to watch this episode of Sanctuary Moon without remembering this literal fucking trauma ever again. That's what I'm trying to say here.

But we're not supposed to see it that way. we're just supposed to think, "Oh, it's so cute. They're gonna watch more TV together."

Even though Murderbot didn't want to watch A.R.T.— TV with A.R.T. in the first place, and then A.R.T. just kept fucking forcing the matter and literally not letting Murderbot actually consent, because it couldn't actually say no, because A.R.T. literally wouldn't leave it alone until it said yes.

And now again, A.R.T. is saying, "Do you want to watch— do, do I have your consent to watch TV with me while you are lying

there in fucking agony actively being traumatized?"

And then Murderbot doesn't say anything. And A.R.T. says, "Well, that's good enough for me. We're going to watch your favorite show and I'm going to ruin it forever for you because now you'll never be able to watch it without thinking of the fucking agony you are in right now."

[from offscreen] Like, a really hilarious fun fact to bring the mood up—

If you talk louder.

[from offscreen] Uh if you would just like a random fun fact to lighten the mood a little bit. There's some random knockoff transformers called the Decepticons are called Deformation robots and they turn into ice creams. Ice cream. They turn into little ice cream ice cream cones.

Why are they called Deformations?

[from offscreen] because it looks like Decepticon when you spell it out in a font similar to thing.

If you say so. I'll take your theoretically.

I mean, it just it just it's it starts with D and ends with N. So, just show me the popsicle and I'll hold that up to the camera.

Need to zoom in. So, not showing people names.

Okay, that's pretty cute. There's apparently Transformers—Transformers knockoffs called or they just called these things. They're they're called Deformations, I guess. And they turn into popsicles. Their robots turn into popsicles. That's cute.

Yeah, there's a bunch of people who just like— Anyways, um unrelated to everything else, I feel really bad for Six Doctor

fans who were just trying to listen to Six Doctor audios and had *all that* happen. I can't imagine what that was like.

I will not say anything more.

Um yeah. Oh, you can turn that fan back on. It's actually way hotter than I thought without it.

Um, yeah, you should listen to the Doctor Who audios with Char— Charley, not The Charlotte Pollard Adventures. It's just shit. It's just shit.

Don't— Don't listen to the Charlotte Pollard series. It's shit. And it's never going to get an actual ending. And it doesn't need an ending, it's just stringing you along and torturing Charley in ways that don't even make sense.

And it's just bad. Don't don't listen to that. But do listen to Charley and the Eighth Doctor traveling around. It's fun. It'll also rip your heart out and stomp on it.

But and also some of them are really shit, but some of them are good and those ones are really good. Then there's the shitty ones.

Uh yeah, we have a little line break. We're on page 56.

> When I was finally able to climb off of the platform, I fell on the deck. But by the end of that cycle, I was almost back to normal again.

We don't know what a cycle is. We don't know how long a cycle is. Does it mean a day? Does it mean a week? Does it mean a

month? We don't know. We don't know. And this is again basic fucking information that you are required to convey.

There's one scene is it? I, I think it's an actual scene in Farscape. I don't remember. Might might have just been Dargo by himself, but, it was it was a silly scene where, there might have been John and Dargo trying to see if a microt is faster than a second because in Farscape

there's aliens, they use alien words for things.

A microt is pretty much equivalent to a, a second-ish. John, I don't think he had a fucking watch with him. He has to just estimate everything because I don't think he had a watch. Yeah.

[from offscreen] Mippippippi.

Yeah. No, that was afterwards. That was that was a different scene. Um, and that's so in

that's so interesting linguistically because that means Luxons can't say S sounds.

Uh, anyways, what was I saying? Oh, yeah. ou have to— if you are writing a sci-fi or fantasy series, you and you're going to say words like cycle instead of day, month, year, etc. you have to tell us what that is equivalent to.

And claim— and simultaneously trying to claim, “oh well, it just makes sense for Murderbot not to explain that,” but then also yelling at the audience, “it's not supposed to be realistic! It's just a story!” You have to fucking pick one! Either it makes sense for the character not to explain that, so it's not going to explain that, or the story doesn't have to make sense because it's just a story and not a documentary. Pick one. Either fucking way, the correct answer is that

you, as the fucking author, do in fact just need to tell us! Just tell us! How long is a cycle???

Or better, show us!

Either fucking or just tell us. Let us fucking know, how long is a cycle!?

Is that equivalent to a day? It doesn't have to be 24 hours, but it is their equ— is it their equivalent of what they call a day?

Because a cycle throughout all of science fiction history has

been used for so many fucking things. It can literally mean a certain amount of hours. It can mean a daytime cycle for whatever planet you're on. It can mean 24 hours based on Earth, wherever the fucking you are. It can mean a year. It can mean a month. It can mean millions of fucking things.

So you cannot just throw it around as though it has one defined fucking meaning when you aren't even using it in a way

that makes it explicitly clear what it means, because we get told it was sever— seven cycles between one place and another in space. Do they have faster than light travel? We know they're going through wormholes in some undescribed way, but that doesn't tell us anything. Is it taking a week to get between places or is it taking se— like, more than half a year? It could be either, because we're given no fucking indication of exactly how much

time has passed! Not in how Murderbot is behaving, or anything else.

As far as the, the writing is concerned., that chunk of time just didn't fucking happen. We're just going from one to the other, and pretending that there was time in between, but zero indication of it.

> So, uh, but by the end of that cycle, I was almost back to normal.

Again, we just need a basic explanation for how long a cycle

is. Like, even just just tell us how many hours it is. Just, just tell us that.

Especially because Murderbot is so fucking precise about telling us, "Oh, it was 35,000 hours ago that blah blah blah."

Does it make sense for it to tell us that? But not— literally, literally, does it make sense for Murderbot to tell us it was 35,000 fucking hours between X and Z event, but not just to

simply tell us how many fucking hours are in a cycle???

No, it doesn't! It doesn't fucking make sense!

And even if it *did* make sense for the character, *it's not a documentary. It's a goddamn story*.

And you, as the author, are required to do the bare fucking minimum to give us the fucking information we need to understand this world.

“How long is a cycle?” Is basic fucking information. That is non-negotiable. You have to tell us how long that is. You cannot just leave us to guess, especially with, like, with so many fucking things in Martha Wells's novels, wow long it is changes depending on the scene, depending on what the fucking plot requires in that exact moment, with zero regard for anything they came before or after.

That's the first complaint I have here.

Second of all:

> When I was finally able to climb off the platform, I fell on the deck. But by the end of that cycle, I was almost back to normal again.

This is just ableism. Murderbot has literally had its arms chopped off. And then each of those sections were chopped into smaller pieces. Its knee and elbow joints completely and utterly fucking removed. And then they were all attached

back together in a botched surgery where it was still bleeding after the surgery was “successfully completed”.

And we're supposed to pretend that it's magically back to normal after however long a cycle is, with, with— and, and then it's— and then this is never, ever brought up again, ever in the series, as you know, anything that could cause problems, or any kind of disability or even basic chronic

pain. No, it's just back to normal because… 1, 2, 3...t

These 4 pages? They they may as well not exist. It's— there's there's no— there's no severity. There's no there's no seriousness here.

You should all go read Ancillary Justice by Ann Leckie. I mean, I'm going to read that when I'm done this whole fucking— so, just so you can all see exactly what Martha Wells literally will

tell you herself, was her direct inspiration for making this.

So, she decides to have Murderbot's limbs, all of its limbs, not even just one!

All of them be chopped off, and then it's back, is basically back to normal and never experiences any problems or complications from this botched fucking surgery that literally wasn't even done correctly, ever again.

Even though it's under all the fucking stress of literally having to suffer through the agony of all of this from literally being chopped to pieces because it wasn't given pain medication or anesthesia.

And we're supposed to pretend that
“oh yeah, there's no complications whatsoever. It's just it's perfectly healed.”

Doesn't exist, because Martha Wells hates disabled people. She

especially hates physically disabled people and addicts, but she hates physically disabled people, which means none of her characters are ever actually allowed to become physically disabled people.

Uh, the fucking new summary for PlatformDecay which is not — literally just another word for in enshitification if anybody didn't know that— she's literally naming the newest Murderbot book enshitification.

Uh the the newer summary for that that was released somewhere says something something “Murderbot's hand” and it's like, is that a typo or is Murderbot

[from offscreen] lives in it?

Yeah, “their lives are in its hand.” Hand singular. And it's like, are you fucking having typos in your official summaries now, too? Or is Murderbot actually going to become physically disabled forever?

Like, what's going on there? As a response to book five, which came out three years ago by the time this came out?

[from offscreen] No, it was five years ago. That was in 2020.

Oh. Yeah.

Um, the first thing I did was wash off all the blood and other assorted fluids in the bathing

Yeah.

In the bathing facility attached to the med system bay.

So, I guess that confirms that yes, Murderbot was literally being forced to lie there after being chopped to pieces and was just lying there for hours at, at the minimum, in its own fucking blood.

Hours plus whatever the fuck a cycle is, literally just lying there covered in its own blood, lying in a puddle of blood.

And this is not presented as a goddamn horror story.

This is not presented as like horrific medical abuse. Just—not torture.

It's just it's just totally chill.

Again, as I pointed out, I keep saying this has only taken up four pages so far.

Like, not even four pages. We're supposed to be breezing past this, not thinking about this at all whatsoever.

[from offscreen] And if we do think of it, we're supposed to

think of this as a positive experience that we are supposed to then compare to gender affirming surgery.

Mhm. That's literally what the fandom will literally lie to people about. And literally keep they just keep saying that shit over and over and over again.

This fandom has like five jokes and they're all horrifically bigoted and they just keep making them over and over again like they think they're the

most clever person in the entire fucking world.

Security ready rooms had facilities where I could clean off the blood and fluids after a fight or a repair, but I had never used a facility meant for humans. At least this

[from offscreen] Even in the week that you were on a cargo transport?

Yeah.

A.R.T. had good ones with the recycled cleaning fluid that was so much like water it was hard to tell the difference without a chemical analysis. You could adjust the temperature to make it warmer, and it smelled good. I smelled like a clean human afterward and that was just odd.

And it's like, okay, so again, this is being framed as, “oh, ignore the torturous surgery. Murderbot got to take a warm shower, so that makes up for everything. You— actually, it shouldn't even make up for anything, cuz you you didn't notice anything horrific going on there, did you? Just focus on the nice, nice warm shower. That that's that's what we should focus on.”

[from offscreen, sarcastically] Nice shampoo, body wash.

Mmhm. [agreeing sound]

> The fine hair that was coming up in patches in various places was strange, but not as annoying as I had anticipated. It might be inconvenient the next time I had to put on a skin suit.

Uh

> But humans with hair seem to manage with a minimum of complaint, so I figured I would, too.

Again, we don't know what the fucking a skin suit is. We don't know, because the first book was implying it might be literal

artificial skin that Murderbot takes on and off and puts over its metal fucking parts, because it was very clear that Martha Wells had no idea what the fuck Murderbot was even supposed to look like in Book One.

Um, yeah. So again, “Oh, the thing that I was coerced into, it's not as bad as I thought it would be!”

That's not the same thing as consenting and actually enjoying it.

And again, this is just trying to make us not actually think it's a problem that it was coerced into all of this shit in the first place because “oh yeah, you may—maybe you said you didn't want to do that thing, but well, it's not as bad as you thought it would be, huh?”

[from offscreen] Just unending agony.

Literally, literally.

The change in code had also made my eyebrows thicker and the hair on my head a few centimeters longer.

[from offscreen] As compared to —

I could

We— exactly. Cardboard says “as compared to what?” Because literally we were not given any explanation.

[gesturing at own buzz cut] Does M— does Murderbot have my head— my hair length right now?

Was M— was this Murderbot's default hair length? We don't know. We're just told it's “a few centimeters longer than it was before”.

[holding up hand to demonstrate] A few centimeters is like, this much.

What was it at before? Is it now out to here? [holding hand a few centimeters above own buzz cut]

But still like, a buzz cut, just like, a longer buzz cut? We don't know. We’re never told that.

[placing hand near lower hair line] Was it down to here? [lowers hand] And now it's down to here?

Again. We don't know. This is an anti-description, as I fucking coined for Witch King.

It's a description that doesn't tell you anything, because— I think I said this before, um, as

the other person who made a video just pointing out a whole bunch of weird just bad, bad writing shit in the series is, uh, we get—

We don't— we will *not* get told what XYZ character looks like, but then we'll get a anti-description of character Y who and we're told um, “character Y is taller than character X,”.

But we don't know how tall character X is.

We've never been given any goddamn context for how tall character X is.

So, we're just told things in comparison to other things, other characters that—

[from offscreen] That was a comparison specifically between two other characters who literally never got a physical description.

Yeah. Yeah. We're just we're just told, “oh, this thing is XYZ

compared to a thing that was never described”.

So, we're told that Murderbot's hair is a few centimeters longer, but we don't know what— how long its hair was to begin with!

And again, you notice the complete lack of description *of* this hair, including the, the complete lack of description of the hair that's growing on its body.

[holding up arm] You probably can't see my arm here cuz I have the camera set to low quality, but like, this would be the perfect time to tell us that “the, the hair on its arms and stuff that's sprouting up, it's dark. It's— It has black eyebrows, Black hair.”

But again, she doesn't tell us these things, she doesn't tell us these things because she wants plausible deniability.

She wants to be able to tell everybody, "Yes, my my protagonist is a non-binary Black person because I'm so progressive. Give me your fucking money” without actually putting it in the book, so that she gets to then literally scream from the rooftops that everybody should love and worship Apple TV and hand them all their grocery money while they are whitewashing and ciswashing Murderbot into

a literal white man with blonde hair and blue eyes.

[from offscreen] Alexander Skarsgard

Huh?

[from offscreen] Being enslaved by, being

Yeah. Literally, they they made the Murderbot TV show about a cis white man with blonde hair and blue eyes, the fucking Nazi ideal, being enslaved by a group — a diverse group of of Black

and brown people who then have to be rescued, because they're incompetent, by the, the white man that they have enslaved.

They literally turned it into reverse racism and white slavery. And Martha Wells is literally overjoyed with this and literally cannot stop telling everybody how happy she is for this and telling you to spend your grocery money buying an a fucking Apple TV subscription

to reward the company, the giant mega corporation that's known for being evil—

Even though this is supposed to be ~anti- capitalist robots in space~, she will not stop telling everybody, "Spend your money and reward them for whitewashing my fucking character and ciswashing my fucking character and turning the entire thing into literally just reverse racism. Literally white supremacy in action.

White supremacist fucking propaganda."

Uh, blah blah blah.

> The change in code had also made my eyebrows thicker and the hair on my head a few centimeters longer. I could feel it and it was weird.

And it's like that's just making it more confusing. What do you mean you can feel it? You couldn't feel your hair before? Does that mean Mur—Murderbot literally had zero hair on its head before?

Because we were told it did have some hair on its head. So, what do you mean you “can feel it”?

Because even if you just have stubble up here because you've removed the guard, you can feel it. In fact, I keep my hair this length instead of the stubbly length because that isn't soft. This is soft. That just catches your hand.

What do you mean you can “feel” that? What do you mean

you can “feel” your hair? And again, this this is just shit that doesn't make sense.

Uh

I went to A.R.T.'s rec space and used the treadmill and the other machines to test myself, making sure my weapons were still functioning correctly and my aim wasn't off. I didn't test fire them, as A.R.T. let me know that it would be that that would set off the fire protection system if I did. I looked at myself in the mirror for a long time. I told myself I still looked like a SecUnit without armor, helplessly exposed. But the truth was, I did look more human. And now I knew why I hadn't wanted to do this. It would make it harder for me to pretend not to be a person.

And it's like there's so many fucking mixed messages here because we're not actually supposed to think that Murderbot being coerced into this was bad.

We're also not supposed to just actually understand that Murderbot *is* a human who has been socially and legally dehumanized, including brainwashing itself into thinking of itself as being subhuman.

And then it's like— And then we're also saying, “oh yeah, it it actually did need to disguise itself, otherwise it would instantly be murdered by a lynch mob that Martha Wells didn't actually bother to edit into the fucking document, even though it would have been effortless.”

And then we have another line break.

We— And again, this is more victim blaming right here at the end.

> It would make it harder for me to pretend not to be a person.

This is victim blaming, and this is slavery apologism, and saying that “it's actually *not* Preservation Aux's fault for dehumanizing Murderbot. Um, because ~actually~ Murderbot was the one really pretending not to be a person. So if you

think about it, Murderbot fooled them!!!”

That's what this is saying. That's what this is saying.

That it was totally fine for Preservation Aux to pretend they didn't know it was a person, “because um Murderbot was also trying not to let them find out it was a person, so, they're not actually bad slave owners—

As in bad *and* slave owners. There's no such thing as a good slave owner.

“They're not actually bad people. Um because uh, uh, they just fell for Murderbots tricks, too!”

That's, that, that's, that's what this is here for.

And we have another line break.

> We exited the wormhole on schedule. As soon as we were in range of the transit ring, A.R.T. stretched its reception and picked up the destination info packet for me, which included a

> more detailed map of RaviHyral. Rotating the map to look at it from every angle didn't jog anything in the fragments of memory I had at the of that time. But it was inter interesting that Ganaka Pit wasn't marked anywhere.
>
> I could feel A.R.T. in my feed looking over my figurative shoulder again

And again, a thing that Murderbot has never fucking consented to, and is just being forced to accept because it doesn't actually have a choice in it.

And then people insist, "Oh, this is so beautiful. Uh, it's so awesome how m A.R.T. is

constantly invading Murderbot's personal space, including its literal personal mental space, and literally doesn't actually give it the option to say no to anything."

Uh,

> I checked the timestamp and saw the map had been updated multiple times since the time period of my incident. “They took it off the map.”

That's just random dialogue thrown in there. No formatting at all.

> “Is this unusual? A.R.T. asked. It dealt only with star maps, and removing something from one of those was kind of a big deal.

That's a lie. This is a lie. A.R.T. is lying through its fucking metal plating.

Once again, I have to just keep stressing that everything A.R.T. is doing in here is literally just to manipulate and lie to Murderbot.

That's a lie. A.R.T.— A.R.T. knows this is not normal. It, It doesn't *need* to be lying, but it

is because it's a sack of shit, and the fact that Martha Wells is *lampshading* the fact that it's a person— a horrible person— by calling it “asshole” in its literal fucking nickname, that doesn't change the fact that she's still portraying it as a good person.

You ju— just because you lampshade the problems in your writing doesn't mean that the problems aren't still problems.

You can't just say, "Yeah, I know this character is an asshole Haha." It doesn't change the fact that you're still asking us to worship them and pretend that they're a good person. We're supposed to just be totally fine with everything A.R.T. does.

“I don't know if it's usual or not, but it makes

Again the dialogue. It's so— it's just— it's just terribly formatted.

Again, we're just getting dialogue at the very start of the paragraph without any leadup.

> “I don't know if it's usual or not, but it makes sense if the company or the clients wanted to conceal what happened.” If the company wanted to continue to sell contra contracts for SecUnits to other mining installations, concealing the fact or at least obscuring the fact that fatalities had occurred was important. Maybe

And again, this is just more continuity bullshit, because like, you remember in the first book, we're we're told that “oh, the, the company is so dedicated to the truth!!!!!!!!!!”

Because we're just doing corporate propaganda and saying that “Yeah!!!! corporations investigating themselves always get to the truth!!!! You can trust them!!!!!”

Uh, we're not supposed to be like, criticizing that or anything. That's not why we're doing that here.

This is— we're just told that the company's lying about it. Um, that's because that's just how the “plot” works, not because

we're actually criticizing corporations.

I sorry, I have to put [finger quotes] “plot”, that needs to go in quotation marks because it's not actually a plot, as you'll—you'll find out.

Uh,

> Maybe instead of a legal battle, the company had paid out on the bonds quickly under the condition that the client minimized details about the incident in the public record.

And it's like That doesn't make sense. So, they're paying you

the fucking money that they owe you, but also they're adding caveats onto that.

I thought you can just get— I thought little dinky planets like Preservation can just get a court order anywhere? This doesn't make sense.

Again, it's just basic shit. This is basic basic shit and it doesn't make sense.

Uh

This hadn't been a situation like Grey Cris and Deltfall where there were multiple parties involved and the company was all over the news feeds trying to generate sympathies for itself.

And it's like— you just— it's very clear she had to throw that in because somebody said “that doesn't fucking make sense.”

No, that's just a— that's just a shitty excuse for the bad writing.

A.R.T. pulled more historical info, searching the pit and service installation names that were listed. Rabbi Hy— RaviHyral had originally been held by a number of companies with mining rights to different areas of the moon's interior. But over the past two system years,

See, we successfully established that a system year is a, a concrete fucking thing, because that's how that fucking works.

> A company called UMRO had bought out some of the claims, though many of the original companies were still operating on operating as contractors. None of the names sounded familiar. I'd have to figure out where Ganaka Pit had been before I could go there. I would have been transported there as freight, and there weren't any memories of the trip, partially erased or not.

Also, the, the I the, the problem of Murderbot’s memories.

Again, that's just a magic wand that does anything the plot

requires it to, just like hacking does, just like, you know, all of the magic in The Books of the Raksura.

It does whatever is required for the plot. And Witch King, Murderbot’s, memories, um, they will either be as clear, or hazy, as is required in the moment.

We will never actually be given a, a basic rundown on what it remembers, it's just going to get revealed to us when it happens

in the story, so that we never have any fucking idea what to expect. It'll just be whatever is required in the moment to make the, the quote unquote “plot” quote unquote “move forward”.

Again, all of the magic shit, including all of the hacking, it's all just pulled out of the hat.

It doesn't have any fucking reference. It has no place in time. It's just floating around, whatever is convenient for the quote unquote “plot”.

I started to search through the rest of the info packet looking for schedules. I would have to get a shuttle from the transit ring to RaviHyral Port. That would be tricky. Well, the whole thing would be tricky. From the information on the shipping schedule, only people with employment vouchers or passes from one of the mining installations or support services were allowed to board the shuttles. There was no tourism, nobody coming and going without official authorization from one of the companies or contractors on the moon. Since I wasn't a person and I didn't have an employment voucher, I would have to hack my way into one of the supply shuttles….

Dot dot dot. That dot dot dot is really random.

A.R.T. was still pulling data from the station feed. “I have a suggestion,” it told me, and displayed a set of personal advertisements.

Uh, yeah, this is not helping in any way the, the allegations of A.R.T. secretly being a villain, and the fact that A.R.T. is just manipulating and torturing Murderbot for fun because it's bored.

So again, we above— the very paragraph above here, is that all Murderbot has to do is hack its way into a supply shuttle, a thing that is effortless! Cuz apparently, everything that's not

the company is a cakewalking in comparison for how easy it is.

[from offscreen, sarcastically] The company defends its data.

So yeah, the company is ~actually the best data defenders ever~. So everything else is so easy in comparison!

So all Murderbot would have had to do here is hack a shuttle and, and get a shuttle ride.

A.R.T.'s about to make everything so much worse and

uh just unne— unnecessarily complicated and putting Murderbot in unnecessary danger and stress for no reasonm except A.R.T.'s bored.

A.R.T.'s bored, so, we have to go along with everything it says.

Literally, we were literally just told that the solution is all Murderbot has to do is hack a shuttle.

And shuttles are not living ships, they're just regular actual

cars. They're space cars. It just has to hotwire a car. Not even that. Just has to say, "Hey, open your door for me. Let me in."

And by saying “your”, that's not actually a living ship. It's just a regular spaceship, non-living ship. It's not an actual person. And it literally just has to get in a shuttle and go get a free ride, a thing it can do in like 5 seconds instantaneously.

But A.R.T. says,

"I have a suggestion."

And it told me and displayed a set of personal advertisements. I had seen these in the feeds at Port Free Commerce and the last transit ring, but hadn't paid attention.

A.R.T. highlighted one that was a job listing for a temporary position as security for a technologist group on limited contract. “What?” I asked A.R.T.. I didn't understand why it was showing me this.

And uh

“If this group hired you, you would have an employment voucher for travel to the installation.”

And again, the terrible dialogue.

“Hire me.”

Period. That's not a question. Just “hire me.”

I had been on I had more contracts than I can remember. I mean that literally. A lot of them were before the memory purge, but none of them were voluntary. The company pulled me out of storage, showed me to the client, then packed me into the cargo hold. “Have you lost your mind?” “My c my crew hires consultants for every voyage.” A.R.T. was impatient

that I wasn't complimenting it yet on its great idea. “The procedure is simple.”

Like the fucking torture you just put it through that you literally fucked up?!?!!?

> “For humans and augmented humans, yes.” I was stalling. I would

And again, Martha Wells is bad at writing. So instead of actually addressing the, the basic statement here of “that is so much more complicated and needlessly dangerous than me

literally just hacking a fucking car.”

No, instead we're just we are instantaneously going along with this and not acknowledging that literally all it has to do is hack a fucking car.

We're just going along with it instantaneously and acting like this is the only fucking possible solution because A.R.T. suggested it. So it must be—

“We have to go along with it, because A.R.T. is always right and A.R.T. is bored, so let it torture Murderbot. It's fine.”

> I was stalling. I would have to interact with humans as an augmented human. I know that's what altering my configuration was supposed to be for, but I had I had imagined it taking place from a distance or in the in the spaces of a crowded transit ring. Interacting meant talking and eye contact. I could already feel my perform performance capacity dropping. “It will be simple,” A.R.T. insisted. “I will assist you.”

Like that literal botched surgery it just did on Murderbot that literally left it in agony and bleeding.

[from offscreen] Don't you love how that sentence from Book Two written in 2017 perfectly mirrors the exact same description we're now getting for book eight?

Yep.

[from offscreen, sarcastically] Oh no! Eye contact with people I don't know!!!

Yes. As though it don't do that literally every single book.

And then the next is just sarcastic prose:

> Yes, the giant transport bot is going to help the construct— SecUnit pretend to be human. This will go well.

And then it's another line break.

So again, it's just shit writing. Nobody's acting in a way that's remotely fucking logical.

Like, literally, we were literally just—

She *didn't have to tell us* that all Murderbot has to do is hack a shuttle.

She chose to tell us that information and then immediately just say, "Nope, actually A.R.T.— A.R.T. wants to do something else because it's bored.”

It's literally just just doing this shit because it's bored. It's literally just— just putting Murderbot through shit for entertainment and making

Murderbot's life so much more difficult and dangerous than it needs to be.

And also, it's still lying! And it will continue to lie to Murderbot throughout the entire rest of this book.

And we're never supposed to be upset with it for lying, or notice that it was lying.

How many more pages till the next chapter?

Many, for this form of fucking bullshit, it's so many pages.

Look how many pages are there until the chapter ends. This is a long chapter for this shitty little book when you're active reading and doing this shit.

Like, I guess—

Again, as I keep saying, we're supposed to be breezing past all of this shit that we've just been talking about for two hours now,

and not actually taking in any of the things actually happening.

We're just supposed to be going off of the vibes, which is what everybody does, which is why they insist that “um,,, A.R.T. and Murderbot have a perfectly healthy um reciprocal relationship!”

And not just outright fucking abuse from A.R.T. from the very first fucking instant it set metaphorical eyes on Murderbot.

Anyways, um I would like to do other stuff.

So, we're on page 60.

A.R.T. just fucking tortured Murderbot for fun and is now literally— instead of just— instead of Murderbot just being able to hack a shuttle, a thing that is actually morally neutral because the shuttles are not living ships—

Instead of Murderbot simply being able to hack and sneak its

way over, A.R.T. is fucking coercing it, and Mertha Wells is just acting like this is the only fucking option— into putting itself on all of the goddamn systems, putting itself as a record here, exposing itself to people needlessly, very specific people who will see it and be able to say, "Hey, yeah, that person was here."

All of this shit for no fucking reason. Just because A.R.T. is bored and we're just supposed

to— we're we are not supposed to notice that this is taking what should be a simple in and out “just hack the fucking shuttle and sneak over.”

We're not supposed to notice that that was an option.

We're supposed to pretend that “yeah, sneaking— pretending to be a, a blah blah blah, putting yourself in a situation where you will be retraumatized because you will be reliving the slave and owner fucking shit

where you'll be forced to be acting as a meat shield once again for slave owners.”

We're just not supposed to notice that it literally didn't have to do this shit, and then A.R.T. is just fucking forcing it to.

Anyways, yeah, watch these fucking videos in order. I'm very tired of people watching only one at random and then complaining that I'm not talking

about the shit that is in all the other fucking things.

What?

[from offscreen] That they're complaining because they don't have the context.

You can't— you can't just pick this video and then complain about not having the context of all the shit that's in the other videos.

I give you the transcripts for free. You can even download

them. There's no excuse for this shit. They will all be linked in the fucking description. And you can also just click on the icon which is somewhere over here or maybe it's on that side if it flips it.

Um and just just search in “live read murderbot” and just pick the first one.

Come on people.

All right. Bye-bye.